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Message Text

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45
ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SAM-01 PM-07

NSC-10 SS-20 ACDA-19 DPW-01 NIC-01 EB-11 FEA-02 DRC-01

/155 W
---------- 103476
P R 081330Z FEB 74
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY
SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1435
INFO USINT ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
USINT CAIRO
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
DIA WASHDC

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USINFO FOR IOP/M, IPS, IBS, INE
BEIRUT FOR VOA AND RAPA
ROME FOR VOA
GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

E O 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION - PRESS REVIEW FEB 7 (25/74)

SUMMARY: OBSTACLES TO SYRIAN-ISRAELI NEGOTIATIONS
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OVERSHADOW OTHER MAJOR PRESS ITEMS, WHICH INCLUDE

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ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES, NEED TO REORGANIZE NATIONAL
RESOURCES TO MEET DEFENSE PRIORITIES AND IDEOLOGICAL
GAP IN POLITICAL PARTIES' VIEWS THAT OBSTRUCTS QUICK
FORMATION OF NEXT GOI. DAVAR SAYS IF SYRIA DOES
NOT CHANGE ITS POSITION, DEFMIN DAYAN MIGHT
CONSIDER CANCELLING HIS BONDS TRIP
TO AVOID TALKING TO DR KISSINGER ON TROOP SEPARATION.
HAARETZ CORESPONDENT IN NEW YORK SAYS STATE
DEPT SOURCES FEAR SYRIAN REFUSAL TO ALLOW
ICRC VISITS IS INDICATION THAT ISRAELI POWS ARE NO
LONGER ALIVE. ARABISTS BELIEVE THAT BASE OF "MINI
MUTINY" IN JORDAN EXTENDS BEYOND ECONOMIC INTERESTS.
MILITARY WRITERS ASSUME EGYPT HAS STWDTED TO
DISMANTLE MISSILE BASES IN CANAL EAST BANK. COMMENTATORS
CONTINUE TO STUDY US BUDGET TO DEDUCE COURSE OF US
GLOBAL POLICY. END SUMMARY.

ISRAELI-SYRIAN NEGOTIATIONS
(A) HATZOFE WRITE: "ISRAELI CONSIENT TO A TIMETABLE
BY WHICH TROOP SEPARATION TALKS BETWEEN SYRIA AND ISRAEL
WILL COMMENCE SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH THE SUBMISSION OF A LIST
OF POWS IS CONDITIONED ON THE LENGTH OF TIME THAT SYRIA
INDICATES (FOR ALLOWING ICRC VISITS). SINCE SYRIA HAS NOT
RESPONDED TO THE ISRAELI PROPOSAL, ISRAEL FEELS FREE TO WITHDRAW
ITS POSITION LINKING THE START OF NEGOTIATIONS TO SUBMISSION OF
A LIST OF POWS."
(B) DAVAR REMARKS: "IF SYRIA DOES NOT CHANGE
ITS POSITION ON ISRAELI POWS... UP TO THE TIME OF DEFMIN
DAYAN'S SCHEDULED DEPARTURE FOR THE US TO APPEAR BEFORE
THE BONDS DRIVE... DAYAN MIGHT CONSIDER CANELLING HIS
TRIP... THIS IS DUE TO THE ASSUMPTION THAT IF DAYAN VISITS THE US,
HE OU LIKELY TO MEET WITH DR KISSINGER... AND THE SUBJECT
OF TROOP SEPARATION WITH SYRIA MIGHT COME UP FOR DISCUSSIONS.
THIS IS A MILITARY TOPIC AND DEFMIN DAYAN HANDLES
IT. THE GOI IS STILL FIRM IN ITS POSITION NOT TO NEGOTIATE UNLESS
THE POW LIST IS RECEIVED AND ICRC VISITS ARE ALLOWED."
(C) HAARETZ COMMENTS: "... EVEN IF TROOP SEPARATION
TALKS COMMENCE WITHIN A FEW DAYS... AND EVEN IF ICRC VISITS TO
OUR POWS BEGIN THE THREAT THAT SYRIA MIGHT NOT RETURN THE POWS
WOULD STILL HANG OVER THE COURSE OF NEGOTIATIONS.. AT THE PEAK OF
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NEGOTIATIONS WHICH WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE CONDUCTED WITH
KISSINGER'S CHARACTERISTIC ENERGY AND THE STRONG DESIRE OF
(KISSINGER AND HIS AIDES) TO BRING THE PARTIES TO SIGN AN AGREE-
MENT... NEW IDEAS ON COMPROMISE WOULD BE BORN... THEY WILL
BE MAINLY SHOULDERED BY ISRAEL. ISRAEL MIGHT FIND ITSELF
IN A POSITION WHERE THE RETURN OF POWS WOULD BE THE ONLY PRICE
IT WOULD GET FOR ITS WITHDRAWAL FROM THE NORTHERN FRONT.. "EVERY
BODY AGREES THAT THIS WOULD BE A HEAVY PRICE..."

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(D) HAARETZ NY CORRESPONDENT REMARKS: " STATE DEPT
SOURCES EXPRESSED SERIOUS CONCERN ABOUT THE SITUATION IN SYRIA...
THEY (ALSO) FEAR THAT SYRIAN REFUSAL TO PERMIT ICRC VISITS
IS AN INDICATION THAT THE ISRAELI POWS ARE NO LONGER
ALIVE... KNOWLEDGEABLESOURCES SAID THAT KISSINGER'S THREATS
AGAINST OIL BLACKMAIL.. ARE INDICATION OF THE BITTERNESS
OF THE USGOVT OVER ARABS' NON-COMPLIANCE WITH THEIR
PROMISES... THERE IS A HINT THAT IF THE ARABS DO NOT LIFT THE
EMBARGO, THE US WILL CEASE TO FORCE ISRAEL TO WITHDRAW FURTHER
FROM SINAI... HUSSEIN'S WASHINGTON TRIP HAS BEEN POSTPONED...
SINCE THE US BELIEVES THERE IS NO REASON TO TALK TO HIM
IN THE ABSENCE OF A MOMENTUM FOR AN ISRAELI-JORDANIAN AGREEMENT.
THE US IS ALSO WAITING TO SEE THE OUTCOME OF THE OIL
CONFERENCE IN ALGIERS."

SUPERPOWERS' RELATIONS
COMMENTING ON A SYMPOSIUM ON THE "POWERS
AND THE MID EAST" HELD THIS WEEK WITH THE PARTICIPATION
OF ISRAELI EXPERTS, HAARETZ (SLPETER) REMARKS: "... DESPITE THE
DIFFERENT VIEWS EXPRESSED, THERE SEEMS TO BE A CONSENSUS AMONG
THE PARTICIPANTS OVER THREE POINTS: (A) THAT THE DETENTE IS A NEW
FORM OF STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE SUPERPOWERS AND NOT A STAGE
TOWARDS ITS LIQUIDATION.... (B) THE MID EAST REMAINS AN 'UNDEFINED
AREA' (AS FAR AS THE SUPERPOWERS ARE CONCERNED) AND THEREFORE
THE DENTE HAS LITTLE, IF ANY, INFLUENCE ON THE AREA... AND (C)
THAT THE SOVIET UNION IS RETAINING THE PALESTINIAN CARD TO SABOTAGE
PEACE NEGOTIATIONS WHENEVER THEY FEEL THAT (PEACE) PROGRESS IS
BENEFITING THE US..." QUOTING PROFESSOR CONFINO
(EXPERT ON SOVIET AFFAIRS), WRITER PROCEEDS: "THE SOVIET
UNION VIEWS DETENTE AS AN INTERIM STAGE TOWARD SEEKING
EQUALITY BETWEEN THE SOVIET UNION AND THE US IN THE NUCLEAR
BALANCE... THE DETENTE WILL VANISH THE MINUTE THE SOVIET UNION
REALIZES THAT IT HAS THE UPPER HAND..." EX-AMB RABIN
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IS QUOTED: "... DETENTE IS A CHANGE IN THE RULES OF THE
SUPERPOWERS' GAMES, A CHANGE THAT IS MEANT TO PREVENT A
NUCLEAR CONFRONTATION.. FOR THE US, THE MAJOR OBJECTIVE
REMAINS THE CURBING OF THE SOVIET ADVANCE.. NIXON AND
KISSINGER REALIZE THE DEPTH OF US PUBLIC SHOCK OVER VIETNAM..
THEY USE THE DTENTE AS AN INTERIM STAGE TO GIVE THE PUBLIC
TIME TO RECOVER FROM THE SHOCK... AS TIME GOES ON THE US
WILL ADOPT A SHREWDER POSITION IN THE MID EAST..."

ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN RELATIONS

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(A) PRESS REPORTS WIDELY ON FIELD REPORTS THAT IDF
WITNESSED EXPLOSIONS BELIEVED TO BE THE (BURNING OF THE) MISSILE
SITES ERECTED BY THE THIRD ARMY IN THE CANAL EAST BANK. DAVAR
(TADMOR) LAUDS TREDND RECONCILLATION WITH EGYPT,
URGING THAT ISRAEL CONTINUE TO MOVE TOWARD FURTHER LIMITATION
OF ENMITY WITH EGYPT. AMONG THE REASONS... THE EGYPTIAN-
ISRAELI TROOP SEPARATION AGREEMENT HAS ALREADY DISFUGURED
ARAB UNITY AND MILITARY SOLIDARITY... IT BROUGHT BACK
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TO THE FORE THE MUTUAL SUSPICION BETWEEN EGYPT AND OTHER ARAB
COUNTRIES... NOT MENTIONING THE (DISTRUST) BETWEEN EGYPT AND
THE TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS... IF EGYPT IS READY TO TAKE ALL
THESE RISKS... ITS (PEACEFUL) INTENTIONS ARE DEEP..."
(B) AL HAMISHMAR (KAPILIUK) REVIEWS SITUATION
IN EGYPT AND ASSESSES POLITICAL POWER OF LEFTISTS AND THE
SOVIET CAMP, WHO ACCORDIN* TO WRITER, SUPPORTED THE VIEWS
OF OUSTED AL AHRAM EDITOR HEYKAI. WRITER REMARKS:
"HEYKAL'S OUSTER CAME AT A TIME OF EGYPTIAN RAPPROACHEMENT
WITH WASHINGTON, SOMETHING THAT WOULD CERTAINLY RAISE THE
CONCERN OF THE LEFTIST ELEMENTS AND THE SOVIETS... WHO
BELIEVE THAT EGYPT IS CONCEDING TOO MUCH TO THE US... I
BELIEVE THAT HEYKAL'S REMOVAL WILL RESULT IN A OPPOSITION
MOVE BY MANY RADICAL CIRCLES IN EGYPT AGAINST SADAT'S
POLICY.. WE CAN EXPECT MANY SURPRISES (IN THE
INTERNAL SCENE IN EGYPT)..."

NEXT GOI
PRESS CARRIES VARIOUS REPORTS ON PROBLEMS
ENCOUNTERED BY ALIGNMENT IN FORMING NEXT COALITION GOVT.
IT ALSO DISCUSSES DIFFERENT IDEOLOGICAL AND POLITICAL VIEWS
OF NRP AND ALIGNMENT THAT ARE OBSTRUCTING ANY PROGRESS.
MAARIV CARRIES INTERVIEW WITH TRANSPORT MINISTER SHIMON
PERES IN WHICH HE IS QUOTED TO HAVE SAID THAT IF CHOICE IS
BETWEEN WIDE COALITION GOVT THAT INCLUDES
LIKUD AND ANOTHER ELECTION, HE PREFERS COALITION.
HAARETZ CLAIMS NRP WANTS TO ATTACH AN ANNEX TO COALITION
AGREEMENT WITH ALIGNMENT THAT IT WILL NOT BE PARTY TO
GOVERNMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY IF GOI SUBMITS A PEAE PLAN
THAT WOULD INCLUDE TERRITORIAL CONCESSIONS IN WEST BANK.
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TAGS: PFOR, IS, SY
To: STATE
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